



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Tuesday - August 12, 2003

- ***In the West***, isolated showers associated with the summer rainy season are largely confined to the ***Four Corners region***, while cool air is restricted to areas along and near the ***Pacific Coast***. Elsewhere, hot, dry weather continues to strain drought-reduced irrigation reserves and stress rangelands and other dryland agricultural interests.
- ***On the Plains***, very warm, mostly dry weather continues to stress pastures and immature summer crops across ***central and southern portions of the region***. Meanwhile on the ***northern High Plains***, slightly cooler weather and scattered showers are aiding pastures but arriving too late to help spring-sown small grains.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, mild, mostly dry weather continues to favor reproductive to filling corn and soybeans, although pockets of dryness are developing.
- ***In the South***, locally heavy rain is overspreading the ***central Gulf Coast region***, while scattered showers linger in the ***Atlantic Coast States***. Elsewhere, warm, mostly dry weather is promoting fieldwork and summer crop maturation.

Outlook: Across the ***South*** and ***East***, the weather pattern of the last several weeks will persist for several more days. Widespread, locally heavy showers and thunderstorms are likely in the ***Ohio Valley, Southeast, and Atlantic Coast region***. Meanwhile, a high-pressure system will provide dry weather to much of the ***Corn Belt***, while locally heavy rain will develop across the ***western Gulf Coast States*** and the ***Delta***. Elsewhere, hot, mostly dry weather is expected across the ***western half of the U.S.***, although monsoon showers will provide isolated relief in portions of the ***Rockies***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for August 17-21 calls for near- to above-normal temperatures nearly nationwide. Cooler-than-normal weather is likely to be confined to the ***Gulf Coast region*** and the ***southern Atlantic States***. Wetter-than-normal weather is forecast in the ***Mississippi Valley*** and across the ***central and eastern Gulf Coast States***, while below-normal rainfall is expected in the ***Mid-Atlantic States*** and ***southern New England***. In the ***West***, the only exception to a drier-than-normal pattern will be ***Arizona***, where monsoon showers may provide limited drought relief.

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